

**Clean Copy of Substitute Paragraph, beginning at the bottom of Page 1 and ending on Page 2:**

A new *Arabidopsis* NAC family member, NAC1, is described. This gene was originally isolated by the ability of its cDNAs to alter yeast *S. pombe* cell morphology when overexpressed by using the method of Xia et al. (1996). Northern analysis showed that NAC1 was expressed in a tissue-specific manner with high levels in root and low levels in leaves. Whole-mount *in situ* experiments showed expression in actively dividing root and shoot meristems.

**Clean Copy of Amended Claims 1, 3, 5 and 6:**

1. (Amended) An isolated nucleic acid comprising bases 89-1060 of SEQ ID NO:1.

3. (Amended) An isolated protein at least 70% homologous to said protein of claim 2, wherein said isolated protein is a functional homologue of NAC1.

5. (Amended) A transgenic plant which is transgenic for a nucleic acid comprising the nucleic acid of claim 4.

6. (Amended) A transgenic plant cell which is transgenic for a nucleic acid comprising the nucleic acid of claim 4.